

Public Use Microdata Sample from decennial censuses, the National Survey of Experienced Scientists and Engineers, High School and Beyond, the Longitudinal Study of American Youth, the New Entrants Surveys, the National Educational Longitudinal Survey (NELS), the National Longitudinal Study of the High School Class of 1972, and the National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty. What is most needed is more methodical and more definitive analyses, not more data.

The book's overall lack of concern with "methodological correctness" is also reflected in its eagerness to embrace assertions that have not been proven scientifically. For example, Vetter cites a finding from an unpublished report: "it is interesting that women who choose engineering as a career are likely to have no brothers" (p. 32). This finding is invoked to support the idea that parents "discriminate against their daughters." Though the number of siblings is well known to affect achievement, the sex composition of siblings has not been proven to have much relevance. Puzzled by Vetter's citation, I contacted William LeBold at Purdue University, to whom the finding is attributed, and also, with the help of Kimberlee Akin, computed statistics from the 1994 wave of NELs. LeBold in response to my query said he had no direct evidence bearing on the issue, and our own results also clearly rejected the claim: the percentage of female students with brothers was 70.3 among 58 engineering students versus 72.3 among 2654 non-engineering students, a statistically insignificant difference. It is ironic that a myth is created in a section of the book on "myths and realities." Let us hope that it will not be spread further.

Though the book documents rather rapid progress in women's participation in SME since the 1950s, it gives no proven causal explanations for the increase. Although the future can be quite different from the past, understanding the recent past is a very helpful, if not the most helpful, aid in predicting the future. Because the book does not establish causal explanations for past experience, the merit of its policy recommendations is difficult to evaluate. It appears that the authors' recommendations were drawn mainly from their personal experiences, intuitions, and political convictions.

In sum, this book contains many interesting but unproven ideas and provides a good reference to many studies, some of which are of questionable scientific merit.

Yu Xie

Department of Sociology,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382, USA

Books Received

Academic Environment. A Handbook for Evaluating Employment Opportunities in Science. Karl W. Lanks. 2nd ed. Taylor and Francis, Philadelphia, 1996. xii, 124 pp., illus. Paper, \$14.95.

Applied Continuum Mechanics. T. J. Chung. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1996. xii, 252 pp., illus. \$49.95.

The Biochemical Basis of Neuropharmacology. Jack R. Cooper, Floyd E. Bloom, and Robert H. Roth. 7th ed. Oxford University Press, New York, 1996. viii, 518 pp., illus. \$50.

Bioconjugate Techniques. Greg T. Hermanson. Academic Press, San Diego, 1996. xxvi, 785 pp., illus. \$99; paper, \$49.95.

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Darwin and the Darwinian Revolution. Gertrude Himmelfarb. Elephant (Dee), Chicago, 1996. xii, 511 pp. Paper, \$16.95. Reprint, 1959 ed.

Darwin's Dangerous Idea. Evolution and the Meanings of Life. Daniel C. Dennett. Touchstone Books (Simon and Schuster), New York, 1996. 589 pp., illus. Paper, \$16 or C\$21.50. Reprint, 1995 ed.

Ecosystem Management. Selected Readings. Fred B. Samson and Fritz L. Knopf. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1996. xvi, 462 pp., illus. \$79.95; paper, \$29.

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A Historical Archaeology of the Modern World. Charles E. Orser, Jr. Plenum, New York, 1996. xvi, 247 pp., illus. \$34.95. Contributions to Global Historical Archaeology.

The Historical Atlas of the Earth. A Visual Exploration of the Earth's Physical Past. Roger Osborne and Donald Tarling, Eds. Holt, New York, 1996. 192 pp., illus. \$45.

The Hubbard Model. Its Physics and Mathematical Physics. Dionys Baeriswyl *et al.*, Eds. Plenum, New York, in cooperation with NATO Scientific Affairs Division, 1995. xii, 407 pp., illus. \$120. NATO ASI Series B, vol. 343. From a workshop, San Sebastian, Spain, Oct. 1993.

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Seeing Through Statistics. Jessica M. Utts. Duxbury Press (Wadsworth), Belmont, CA, 1996. xvi, 464 pp., illus. \$35.95.

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Solving Problems with NMR Spectroscopy. Atta-ur-Rahman and Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary. Academic Press, San Diego, 1995. xvi, 430 pp., illus. Paper, \$34.95.

Tamoxifen. Beyond the Antiestrogen. John A. Kellen, Ed. Birkhäuser Boston, Cambridge, MA, 1996. x, 377 pp., illus. \$94.50.

Thermodynamic Theory of Site-Specific Binding Processes in Biological Macromolecules. Enrico Di Cera. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1996. xvi, 296 pp., illus. \$69.95.

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